

Perth is putting its best foot forward for CHOGM in October and is expected to continue booming.

Perth

Perth Pushes Ahead As Cultural Hotspot

Perth's remarkable growth in the last few years has not been localised to its sizeable infrastructure and commercial projects. Perth has undergone a cultural renaissance, focussing on promoting a cultural vibrancy and using its robust economy to full advantage.

From the CBD to the city's cultural and entertainment heart of Northbridge, the evidence of the destination's renaissance is particularly evident on Perth's most famous street, St. Georges Terrace. Currently undergoing an \$11 million upgrade, The Terrace connects several CBD hotels and is home to many of the city's grand and historic buildings.

Features of the upgrade include a wider walkway to encourage al fresco dining, public artwork and more. Completion is scheduled prior to October this year when delegates of the Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting (CHOGM) meet in Perth.

In the city a number of new small bars and cafes can be found in laneways, a result of the State's relaxed liquor licensing laws. These eclectic boutique-style venues offer world-class wine, food and cocktails, all with a distinctive WA flavour.

Throughout the city, colourful illumination projects are brightening up Perth. Specific buildings and inner city areas have been lit up with welcoming, spectacular eco-lighting displays. The first, Council House, was switched on in April of 2010.

Due for completion early 2012, the new **Perth Arena** is a multi-purpose indoor entertainment and sports venue will seat a minimum of 12,000 people for sporting events and 14,500 for concerts. Able to accommodate banquets and balls for 1,000 guests on the Arena floor, Perth Arena will feature a state-of-the-art operating system, an adaptable performance floor, extensive support rooms and a retractable roof.

The recently completed **Perth Cultural Centre** is now a burgeoning realm of urban

InterContinental Perth Burswood's recent redesign.



culture and creativity and the hub of all things cultural in Perth. This urban space houses the State's most significant cultural and learning institutions, including the new **State Theatre Centre** that features the recently opened Heath Ledger Theatre.

The **Perth Cultural Centre** has been completely rejuvenated in the last two years. This new space is now a destination for a diverse calendar of public events and activities. The city's recent cultural growth, according to the Perth Convention Bureau is just the start the city's cultural renaissance.

InterContinental Perth's 5 Star Refresh

InterContinental Perth Burswood has begun a multi-million dollar project to redesign all 400 guest rooms as well as the reception area.

The project is on schedule for a mid 2012 completion date with some levels already complete. Designed to take full advantage of the Swan River and Perth city skyline, the new reception area creates a lasting impression from the moment guests arrive.

Still to come in the redevelopment project is a new Las Vegas style outdoor pool area, complete with private cabanas, plunge pools and butlers, and a day spa – both will raise the bar in levels of service and extravagance and are expected to be open in time for summer 2012.



Sandalford Wines new underground wine cellar is available for events.

Wine and Dine at Sandalford

The Swan Valley's **Sandalford Wines** offers a unique location for conferencing and events, where you're virtually guaranteed quality food and wine offerings. Sandalford Wines is equipped with facilities to cater for conferencing and gala dinner events, particularly using the new underground cellar space offering 600 square metres of space surrounded by American oak wine barrels filled with premium aging port. The cellar can seat up to 300 guests banquet style or up to 500 cocktail.

A variety of event spaces are on offer suiting smaller groups of 20-60 guests and the winery also offers Miss Sandalford, a luxury cruiser that can also be utilized for events and cruises.

For corporate groups, team activities such as tastings, tours, wine blending and 'winemaker for a day' packages can all easily be incorporated into a program.

Sandalford Wines is in the scenic Swan Valley, about 25 minutes from Perth. www.sandalford.com